

Tracking Non-Fatal Work-Related Farm Injuries in Michigan

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Summary Statistics



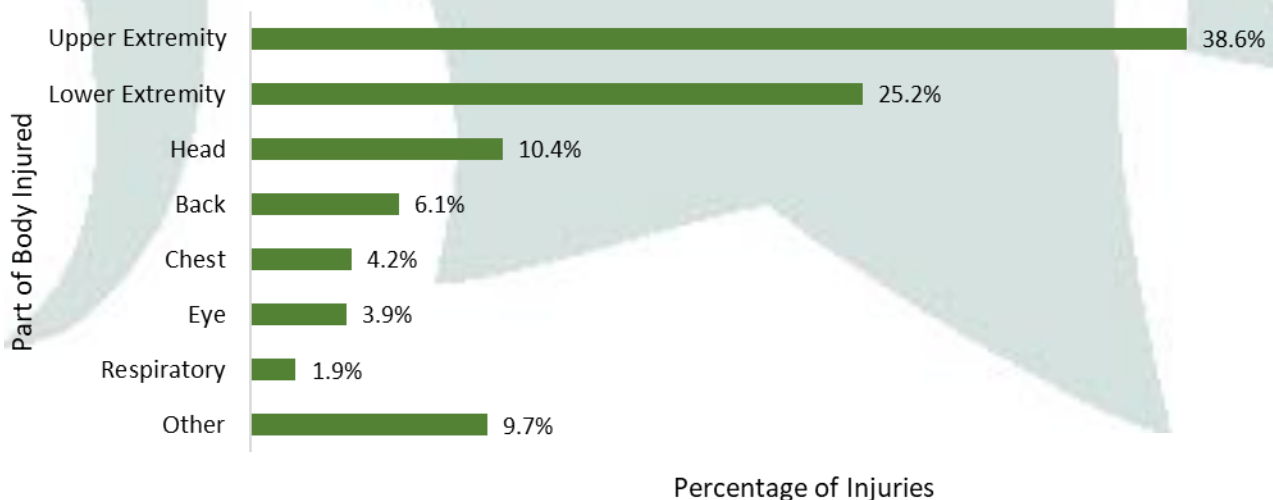
*Estimate of 2024 injuries based on data as of 1/22/2025



Injuries caused by tractors are the second leading source of work-related farm injuries in Michigan.

There were 1,003 non-fatal work-related farm injuries in 1,009 individuals in Michigan in 2022 and 2023. There were an additional 24 work-related deaths that occurred on a farm. One individual had two separate agricultural injuries in 2022, and six individuals had two separate injuries in 2023. Eleven individuals had a farm injury in 2022 and a second injury in 2023. Most injuries were among men (73.8%). Among workers with information on race and ethnicity, most of the work-related farm injuries occurred among White workers (94.1%). The rate was 140% higher for Hispanic versus non-Hispanic workers. Fourteen (1.4%) injured workers were <16 years of age. The age of individuals varied from 9 to 91 years of age; the average age was 46 and the median age was 45.

Work-Related Farm Injuries by Part of Body Injured, Michigan 2022-2023*



*Information on part of body injured was available for 913 (91.0%) injuries. Percentages are based on the primary diagnosis of the injury.

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Background

Since January 1, 2015, Michigan's hospitals were required to report work-related farm injuries for all patients. The Occupational and Environmental Medicine Division at Michigan State University prepares periodic reports on work-related farm injuries, available at www.oem.msu.edu.

2022-2023 Results

- Three children, ≤ 10 years old were injured while doing farm work activities.
- Where type of care was known, 523 (84.8%) injuries were treated in Michigan's emergency departments and 63 (10.2%) injuries required a hospital stay.
- The most common part of the body injured were the upper extremities in 352 (38.6%) individuals followed by the lower extremities in 230 (25.2%).
- The most common injury source was "cow" (20.7%), followed by tractor (12.8%).
- The most common nature of injury was a fracture (196; 21.0%) followed by a sprain/strain (143; 15.3%).
- Where type of farm was known, dairy farms had the highest number of injuries (133; 21.4%), followed by 115 injuries (18.5%) on livestock farms, and 61 injuries (9.8%) on fruit farms.

Injury Source of Work-Related Farm Injuries, Michigan 2022-2023*

Injury Source	Number	Percent
Cow	125	20.7
Tractor	77	12.8
Fall at Ground Level	60	9.9
Non-Tractor Machine	58	9.6
Chemical	49	8.1
Fall from Height	37	6.1
Tool	35	5.8
Livestock	31	5.1
Horse	23	3.8
Other	109	18.1
Total	604	100.0

*Information on injury source was not reported for the 386 cases reported by worker's compensation (WC) data. Injury source was available for 604 of the 617 (97.9%) cases reported by sources other than WC.

Work-Related Farm Injury Narratives

- A 29-year-old male sustained a crushing injury to his left wrist and hand after his hand was caught in a corn picker while working on his family farm.
- An 11-year-old boy sustained a bruise on his face after he was kicked by a steer on a family farm.
- A 60-year-old male sustained a finger amputation when he was attempting to fix a stuck conveyor belt while working on his farm.
- A 16-year-old male suffered a closed head injury after falling from a tractor while working at a grain farm.
- A 35-year-old female was hospitalized for three nights with an upper arm fracture after falling 10 feet from a ladder while working in an apple orchard picking apples.
- A 21-year-old male sustained a chemical burn to the face, chest, and hand when a hose that was not working properly sprayed him while he was working on a dairy farm.
- A 65-year-old male sustained multiple fractures to his ribs after his tractor rolled over the right side of his body while he was doing maintenance on the tractor.
- A 62-year-old male was hospitalized for one night with multiple facial fractures after a 700-pound hay bale fell on him causing him to fall and hit his head while working on his farm.